

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

This invention overcomes the disadvantages of the prior art by providing a system and method for managing backup and restore operations on a storage system, typically between source (or "primary") storage system and destination (or "secondary") storage system using a backup management client that employs a version of the Network Data Management Protocol (NDMP) to interface with the destination file server and generate an "index" of data structures (such as directories and files) from directly from scanning the trees of PCPIs ("Snapshots™") stored on the destination. The management client includes a command line interface for entry of instructions by a user or application and a web-based user interface and allows the index to be displayed as a series of web pages (HTML-based) on a graphical user interface. The index can be browsed and selected data structures can be restored to a source filer/file server as desired. All backups/PCPIs can be contemporaneously browsed, allowing greater flexibility in selecting a best backup image to restore. Within a given backup, the relative contents can be browsed, providing further assurance to an administrator that the correct/desired versions of particular data sets (files) within the browsed backup are present. Likewise, the creation of PCPIs for use as backups can be scheduled through the management client.